

REMARKS

Claims 1 to 19 were canceled in the Preliminary Amendment filed with the present application on May 30, 2001.

Claims 20 to 26 were canceled in response to the Office Action dated December 27, 2002.

Claims 27 to 34 are pending in the present application.

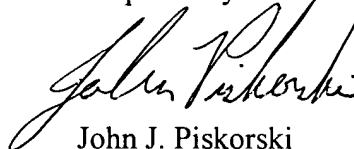
The explanations for the amendments to claims 27 to 34 are described in the amendment document filed on September 24, 2003.

Applicants believe that the present response places the non-compliant amendment document in compliance with 37 CFR § 1.121.

Favorable consideration and allowance of claims 27 to 34 are earnestly solicited.

If the Examiner has any questions concerning this response or the application, or if he believes the application is for any reason not yet in condition for allowance, he is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned at the number set forth below in order to expedite allowance of the application.

Respectfully submitted,



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